

Greetings,

It's no secret that food loss and food waste are big problems. Tons of recoverable food is lost or wasted every year. These foods exist in fields, during transport, in storage, at restaurants, and in markets.

Thankfully, businesses, policymakers, farmers, researchers, and the funding and donor communities are taking action to tackle food loss and food waste. At present there is a collaboration of businesses, nonprofits, foundations that have come together to re-evaluate the business of food recovery as a viable way to subsidize those that are in need of healthy and nutritious meals. Local supermarkets have been a wonderful source and for that we are eternally "thankful"!

At this time, we are requesting the food recovery be added to the language of the proposed bill HB5146. In order for this endeavor to continue be profitable and sustainable the State of Connecticut must create an infrastructure and incentives to increase storage capacity. This can be achieved by providing grants and facilities which will greatly increase the success of these endeavors.

Finally, food recovery adds a societal economic value and other non-financial impacts to marginalize communities. Food rescue is a win-win initiative—providing food for the hungry while helping the environment while improving public health!

Respectfully submitted,

Bishop Dr. Phillip A. Boone